

SSB 6344 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs

ADOPTED 2/28/2010

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3  
4 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.640 and 2006 c 348 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The contribution limits in this section apply to:

7 (a) Candidates for state legislative office;

8 (b) Candidates for state office other than state legislative  
9 office;

10 (c) Candidates for county office(~~((in a county that has over two~~  
11 ~~hundred thousand registered voters))~~);

12 (d) Candidates for special purpose district office if that  
13 district is authorized to provide freight and passenger transfer and  
14 terminal facilities and that district has over two hundred thousand  
15 registered voters;

16 (e) Candidates for city council office;

17 (f) Candidates for mayoral office;

18 (g) Persons holding an office in (a) through ~~((d))~~(f) of this  
19 subsection against whom recall charges have been filed or to a  
20 political committee having the expectation of making expenditures in  
21 support of the recall of a person holding the office;

22 ~~((f))~~ (h) Caucus political committees;

23 ~~((g))~~ (i) Bona fide political parties.

24 (2) No person, other than a bona fide political party or a caucus  
25 political committee, may make contributions to a candidate for a state  
26 legislative office, ~~((or))~~ county office, city council office, or  
27 mayoral office that in the aggregate exceed ~~((seven))~~ eight hundred

1 dollars or to a candidate for a public office in a special purpose  
2 district or a state office other than a state legislative office that  
3 in the aggregate exceed one thousand (~~four~~) six hundred dollars for  
4 each election in which the candidate is on the ballot or appears as a  
5 write-in candidate. Contributions to candidates subject to the limits  
6 in this section made with respect to a primary may not be made after  
7 the date of the primary. However, contributions to a candidate or a  
8 candidate's authorized committee may be made with respect to a primary  
9 until thirty days after the primary, subject to the following  
10 limitations: (a) The candidate lost the primary; (b) the candidate's  
11 authorized committee has insufficient funds to pay debts outstanding  
12 as of the date of the primary; and (c) the contributions may only be  
13 raised and spent to satisfy the outstanding debt. Contributions to  
14 candidates subject to the limits in this section made with respect to  
15 a general election may not be made after the final day of the  
16 applicable election cycle.

17 (3) No person, other than a bona fide political party or a caucus  
18 political committee, may make contributions to a state official, a  
19 county official, a city official, or a public official in a special  
20 purpose district against whom recall charges have been filed, or to a  
21 political committee having the expectation of making expenditures in  
22 support of the recall of the state official, county official, city  
23 official, or public official in a special purpose district during a  
24 recall campaign that in the aggregate exceed (~~seven~~) eight hundred  
25 dollars if for a state legislative office, (~~or~~) county office, or  
26 city office, or one thousand (~~four~~) six hundred dollars if for a  
27 special purpose district office or a state office other than a state  
28 legislative office.

29 (4)(a) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, no bona  
30 fide political party or caucus political committee may make  
31 contributions to a candidate during an election cycle that in the  
32 aggregate exceed (i) (~~seventy~~) eighty cents multiplied by the number  
33 of eligible registered voters in the jurisdiction from which the  
34 candidate is elected if the contributor is a caucus political

1 committee or the governing body of a state organization, or (ii)  
2 (~~(thirty-five))~~ forty cents multiplied by the number of registered  
3 voters in the jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected if the  
4 contributor is a county central committee or a legislative district  
5 committee.

6 (b) No candidate may accept contributions from a county central  
7 committee or a legislative district committee during an election cycle  
8 that when combined with contributions from other county central  
9 committees or legislative district committees would in the aggregate  
10 exceed (~~(thirty-five))~~ forty cents times the number of registered  
11 voters in the jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected.

12 (5)(a) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, no bona  
13 fide political party or caucus political committee may make  
14 contributions to a state official, county official, city official, or  
15 a public official in a special purpose district against whom recall  
16 charges have been filed, or to a political committee having the  
17 expectation of making expenditures in support of the state official,  
18 county official, city official, or a public official in a special  
19 purpose district during a recall campaign that in the aggregate exceed  
20 (i) (~~(seventy))~~ eighty cents multiplied by the number of eligible  
21 registered voters in the jurisdiction entitled to recall the state  
22 official if the contributor is a caucus political committee or the  
23 governing body of a state organization, or (ii) (~~(thirty-five))~~ forty  
24 cents multiplied by the number of registered voters in the  
25 jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected if the contributor is  
26 a county central committee or a legislative district committee.

27 (b) No official holding an office specified in subsection (1) of  
28 this section against whom recall charges have been filed, no  
29 authorized committee of the official, and no political committee  
30 having the expectation of making expenditures in support of the recall  
31 of the official may accept contributions from a county central  
32 committee or a legislative district committee during an election cycle  
33 that when combined with contributions from other county central  
34 committees or legislative district committees would in the aggregate

1 exceed (~~thirty-five~~) forty cents multiplied by the number of  
2 registered voters in the jurisdiction from which the candidate is  
3 elected.

4 (6) For purposes of determining contribution limits under  
5 subsections (4) and (5) of this section, the number of eligible  
6 registered voters in a jurisdiction is the number at the time of the  
7 most recent general election in the jurisdiction.

8 (7) Notwithstanding subsections (2) through (5) of this section,  
9 no person other than an individual, bona fide political party, or  
10 caucus political committee may make contributions reportable under  
11 this chapter to a caucus political committee that in the aggregate  
12 exceed (~~seven~~) eight hundred dollars in a calendar year or to a bona  
13 fide political party that in the aggregate exceed (~~three~~) four  
14 thousand (~~five-hundred~~) dollars in a calendar year. This subsection  
15 does not apply to loans made in the ordinary course of business.

16 (8) For the purposes of RCW 42.17.640 through 42.17.790, a  
17 contribution to the authorized political committee of a candidate or  
18 of an official specified in subsection (1) of this section against  
19 whom recall charges have been filed is considered to be a contribution  
20 to the candidate or official.

21 (9) A contribution received within the twelve-month period after a  
22 recall election concerning an office specified in subsection (1) of  
23 this section is considered to be a contribution during that recall  
24 campaign if the contribution is used to pay a debt or obligation  
25 incurred to influence the outcome of that recall campaign.

26 (10) The contributions allowed by subsection (3) of this section  
27 are in addition to those allowed by subsection (2) of this section,  
28 and the contributions allowed by subsection (5) of this section are in  
29 addition to those allowed by subsection (4) of this section.

30 (11) RCW 42.17.640 through 42.17.790 apply to a special election  
31 conducted to fill a vacancy in an office specified in subsection (1)  
32 of this section. However, the contributions made to a candidate or  
33 received by a candidate for a primary or special election conducted to  
34 fill such a vacancy shall not be counted toward any of the limitations

1 that apply to the candidate or to contributions made to the candidate  
2 for any other primary or election.

3 (12) Notwithstanding the other subsections of this section, no  
4 corporation or business entity not doing business in Washington state,  
5 no labor union with fewer than ten members who reside in Washington  
6 state, and no political committee that has not received contributions  
7 of ten dollars or more from at least ten persons registered to vote in  
8 Washington state during the preceding one hundred eighty days may make  
9 contributions reportable under this chapter to a state office  
10 candidate, to a state official against whom recall charges have been  
11 filed, or to a political committee having the expectation of making  
12 expenditures in support of the recall of the official. This  
13 subsection does not apply to loans made in the ordinary course of  
14 business.

15 (13) Notwithstanding the other subsections of this section, no  
16 county central committee or legislative district committee may make  
17 contributions reportable under this chapter to a candidate specified  
18 in subsection (1) of this section, or an official specified in  
19 subsection (1) of this section against whom recall charges have been  
20 filed, or political committee having the expectation of making  
21 expenditures in support of the recall of an official specified in  
22 subsection (1) of this section if the county central committee or  
23 legislative district committee is outside of the jurisdiction entitled  
24 to elect the candidate or recall the official.

25 (14) No person may accept contributions that exceed the  
26 contribution limitations provided in this section.

27 (15) The following contributions are exempt from the contribution  
28 limits of this section:

29 (a) An expenditure or contribution earmarked for voter  
30 registration, for absentee ballot information, for precinct caucuses,  
31 for get-out-the-vote campaigns, for precinct judges or inspectors, for  
32 sample ballots, or for ballot counting, all without promotion of or  
33 political advertising for individual candidates; or

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1 (b) An expenditure by a political committee for its own internal  
2 organization or fund raising without direct association with  
3 individual candidates."

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5 Correct the title

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**EFFECT:** Makes technical corrections to include city council and mayoral candidates in the same statutes for contribution limits as other candidates; updates the contribution limits to be consistent with current allowances, and changes contribution limits for bona fide political parties for city council and mayoral races to be consistent with that allowed for other candidates.

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